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transfer of motor vehicles inspectors; but the Government have of their own accord altered the postings ordered by the appointing authority in one case."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know which is the case in which the Government interfered with the posting of a motor vehicle inspector?"

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" In the case of one Motor Vehicle Inspector named Mr. Srinivasan, against whom there was a case of corruption. He was transferred, and one Sankara Raju has already been posted there."

Chingleput Wholesale Co-operative Stores.

* 97 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Chingleput Wholesale Co-operative Stores are the sole agents for importing and clearing foodgrains from and out of the Province;

(*b*) whether they are also the distributing agents of imported foodgrains for the Chingleput district;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the orders issued by the Rationing department for the supply to the wholesalers are not fully honoured;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that at Kelampakkam stores in the Chingleput taluk, the storekeeper has delivered only 15 bags of rice for an order for 50 bags of rice;

(*e*) whether the Deputy Commissioner of Civil Supplies and District Supply Officer and District Rationing Officer of Chingleput district had to run up to the place to investigate into the matter;

(*f*) what is the result of their investigations and what action the Government propose to take;

(*g*) whether it is a fact that there are several similar instances in other parts of rationed area;

(*h*) whether as a consequence retail ration shops in Mangadu, Kunnathur and Kovvur areas had to be closed for a number of days and the consumers of those areas had to go without their meagre ration; and

(*i*) whether the Government propose to make a thorough enquiry into the matter and do the needful?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) The Chingleput District Co-operative Wholesale Stores are Collector's agents for clearing the imported grains such as wheat, maize, overseas paddy and rice allotted to this district and arriving at Madras Harbour. As regards paddy and rice, that are allotted to this district from other districts in this Province and from other Provinces, the Chingleput District Wholesale Co-operative Stores are one of the many quota-holders. They are not the sole importers.

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" (*b*) No. They are not the sole distributing agents. The distribution of quotas is made by the Collector.

" (*c*) No such complaint has reached the Collector.

" (*d*) There is no definite information on this point. However there was a complaint in the middle of August 1946, that the wholesale sub-depot keeper at Kelamapakkam did not comply with the demands of rice as passed by the ration authorities between 13th August 1946 to 22nd August 1946 to the ration shops at Covelong village. This was enquired into by the District Rationing Officer and found to be the result of the sub-depot not having been properly supplied. It was a time when adequate stocks were not available. The Brazil rice just then received was distributed and the deficiency was set right.

" (*e*) The Deputy Commissioner (Central) also visited the village later with the District Rationing Officer and District Supply Officer and made enquiries.

" (*f*) Arrangements were made to replenish stocks as soon as possible to this and other depots in short supply. Instructions were also issued to the Collector to the effect that he should impress on the District Supply Officer and the District Rationing Officer and their subordinates that a very high standard of zeal and integrity was expected of them.

" (*g*) *to* (*i*) The Chingleput District Wholesale Central Co-operative Stores were wholesale distributors in the taluks, viz., Madurantakam, Chingleput and Conjeeveram. In other taluks there were private wholesale dealers. The ration shops at Mangadu, Kunnathur and Kovvur were served by private wholesalers authorized in Sriperumbudur taluk. There were occasionally shortages with these private wholesale dealers as the expected stocks did not move freely from the northern supply areas. This in turn affected the stock position. By the timely transfer of stocks from one depot to another, the supply position was maintained fairly all right.

" It was an extremely difficult time when such shortages were inevitable in spite of all vigilance. Now that the situation is getting easier there should be no occasion for such complaints. The District Supply Officer, whose duty it was to look into this, was reverted for inadequate vigilance in seeing that all shops were properly provided."

Sri N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—" May I know how many District Co-operative Stores are entrusted with the duty of distribution? "

The Hon. Sri R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" The exact number is not available. Those District Co-operative Stores which are considered to be efficient have been entrusted."

Sri N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—" Are they satisfactorily working? "

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THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" Generally satisfactorily; but sometimes complaints are received and they are being investigated."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Are there any co-operative societies in Malabar? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" Not to my knowledge."

SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—" Is it a fact that the Vizagapatam Co-operative Stores procured paddy 50 per cent from the wholesale merchants? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" Notice."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Grant of leave to Hon. Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries.

3 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any rules governing grant of casual, privilege and sick leave to the Hon. Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries;

(*b*) who the authority sanctioning each kind of leave is;

(*c*) whether regular attendance in the office during certain hours is expected of each Hon. Minister and Parliamentary Secretary; and

(*d*) whether the Government will clarify the position of the Hon. Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in regard to application of rules affecting other Public servants?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) The service and disciplinary rules apply only to persons who are members of Provincial or All-India Services or hold posts in such services. They do not apply to Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries.

Treatment of cancer in the Presidency.

4 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(*a*) the average number of cancer cases treated in the hospitals of the Presidency;

(*b*) what has been the percentage of deaths per 1,000 population of Madras Presidency from cancer during the past 10 years; and whether there has been any appreciable reduction in this percentage owing to earlier diagnosis;

(*c*) whether any research in the treatment of cancer is being carried on specially in regard to the various uses of radium in the treatment of cancer; and

(*d*) whether it is a fact that facilities for the treatment of cancer in the mufassal are inadequate and if so, what steps are proposed to improve these facilities?